

The Point

The Fitchburg State College Newspaper

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Week of January 30-February 2, 2003

Round and round the Shuttle goes

Where it stops, nobody knows

By: Robin L. Kanter

"Our duty is to be useful, not according to our desires but according to our powers." —Henri Frederic Amiel.

FSC is using their powers to great extent. FSC is now offering a new Shuttle Project to make the students, faculty, and community's life easier. Many students and faculty are now aware of the new shuttle changes. Before, the Shuttle Service made numerous stops. Stops by Mara, the Townhouses, Hammond, the Quad area, and many other places. Now the Shuttle makes a plain loop. From the Civic Center to Hammond, and then makes a stop by the Recreation Center.

Many FSC students asked questions. "What about those students who live in Mara or the Townhouses? How are they supposed to get to class? What about students with disabilities? How are they supposed to get from class to class if the shuttle does not stop by there?"

The students who live in Mara or the Townhouses will now have to walk to a stop by Weston or the Hammond Building. It is not a far walk. Students with disabilities have a couple of choices. They can either go to one of the new shuttle stop locations; they can request special arrangements with the shuttle, or call Campus Police for further assistance.

Only one shuttle now operates from the Civic Center, causing some students to voice their opinions. After talking to one commuter, who wishes to remain anonymous, expressed her anger towards



Are students waiting at these signs only to be left behind?

this new change. "I arrived at school at 9 a.m. this morning. I waited at the Civic center for 20 minutes. When I finally got into the shuttle, it was another ten minutes to get to my designated stop. My class was in Perceval. I had to stop at Hammond to get to Perceval.

Before I was able to get off by Perceval and walk right to class. Now I have to hike to get to my class. I thought that parking at the Civic Center was supposed to make things easier. Not more difficult and make me late for my class."

Another student felt it was "rude and inconsiderate" when the second shuttle was taken away and pointed out that commuter parking on campus is shrinking, that commuters are obligated to drive to school whereas resident students do not, and that only one shuttle make students "late for school, work, and forces them to wait longer".

The Campus Shuttle is just one of the ways to get around Campus and the Campus Community. To help students out, FSC has a Van

Service. All vans and services depart from Aubuchon Hall. The van starts service at 4 p.m., Mon.-Wed. Pick-up and drop-off times are approximate and may change by conditions such as traffic, number of riders, weather, and van maintenance.

This year the Van Service has designed a new set up. On Mondays and Tuesdays, the Van will only drive around the Fitchburg Loop. This includes Wal-Mart Plaza, Central Plaza, Elliot Field, Wallace Civic Center, John Fitch Plaza, and Market Basket Plaza.

The schedule for Wednesdays is considered Mall Night. The van will go to Twin City Plaza, BJ's on Erdman Way, Marshall's Plaza, Water Tower Plaza, and Searstown Mall. The mall is on the other side of Leominster and it can take up to 30 minutes to get there alone.

Nevertheless, with every pro there is con. After 7 p.m., one of the shuttles retires for the night and there is only one running.

This causes problems because a person can be waiting up to an hour and a half waiting for the shuttle to return. That is a long time to wait for a shuttle that may or may not show up. For college students this time is critical.

"I waited for the Van for 90 minutes and it still did not show up!" an FSC student exclaimed. "I went in to the Information Desk and told them my problem. They radioed over to the Van Driver. It was hard enough to hear what the Van driver was saying let alone tell him that there was a group of people waiting outside for him. When the Van finally arrived at the Mall, I had 15

minutes to get in and out with everything that I needed. I lost 120 minutes of my life to have to run in and out of the mall. I should not have to feel rushed."

The information desk says please be prepared to wait for the Van. "Last semester I was waiting for the Van. I was outside of Aubuchon from approximately 3:50-4:45. No Van showed up. I saw the Vans drive by, but not once did they stop in front of Aubuchon to pick me up and the other five people who were waiting. Now I find it hard to understand how a Van cannot show up when it is not on duty until 4 p.m. at any rate. I think that this needs to be fixed," said another student.

The Van also runs on Fridays and Sundays. On Fridays, it is the Bank and Train Station route. The Van will go to local banks from noon to 4 p.m. It will also drop off at the Fitchburg MBTA for trains departing at 1 p.m., 3 p.m., and 7 p.m.

There is a side note to this when riding on the Bank Shuttle, that priority goes to those wanting to be

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FSC needs manners make-over

By Diana DiBattista

Classes have commenced once again and the campus is a buzz with students eager to learn about the 18th century novel, the workings of the central nervous system, and why Freud was so influential, well maybe not eager, but none the less we have all returned for another semester at good old FSC. While classes have only been in action for a week or so it has come to my attention that what many students, and even some faculty need is a lesson in etiquette.

As you walk through the halls of Thompson or McKay it can at times feel like you are back in the 8th grade amongst people who still think spit balls are cool, rather than individuals in their 20's and up. I have composed a list of a few tidbits of advice on how to be courteous that all of us can benefit from.

1. The library is just that; A library. Whether it is the first day of classes or smack dab in the middle of finals, someone somewhere is trying to read or concentrate, be respectful of that. Now I'm not saying talking should be forbidden, I just request that if you are going to have a conversation, please have it with the person next to you and not the one 20 feet away. I and others don't really care about the new computer you bought for your first grader.

2. Tonsils, contrary to popular belief are not the sexiest part of any gender's anatomy, (perhaps that's why it's no big deal if they are removed.) I never really thought about the consistency with which people yawn without covering their mouths until I read an Ann Landers over break, but it is completely accurate that Americans as a whole expose their tonsils on a regular basis. Just something to think about next time you're in Literature and the girl across from you is giving you an awkward look.

3. Now I know its cold and flu season. And I know that some of us just can't afford to skip a class due to a nasty snuffle or cough, myself included, but be courteous of those who also came to class. If you are going to hack your lung up, try to sit away from other's who are healthy. Look at it this way. You don't want another cold once you're through with yours, so keep yours to yourself, and I'll hold on to mine.

4. This final suggestion is actually more of a plea. It is more a request to maintenance personnel and residents of one particular townhouse. I don't own a pair of snow boots, perhaps I should, I mean I only live in New England, but I don't. Even if I did, I don't think I or anyone else should have to tramp through the snow because you needed to get your pillows and teddy bears into the car. Think about us pedestrians before you park on the sidewalks.

Let's try to be more polite and think of others.

1980's: Oh what a time

By Kristine McCaffrey

Over the winter break I spent hours of quality television time watching VH-1's "I love the 80's" series. This "stream of consciousness" type flashback of the 1980s really made me look back on my childhood.

The 80's were a weird time, with weird trends and most of all, themes. Let me say that I enjoyed the VH-1 series tremendously and recommend to watch it if you can, but there are definite themes that ring in my memory that have made me the "born in the 80's" gal that I am.

First of all, like most decades there are the useless, stupid and sometimes harmful items that are everyday must haves. You know, all those things you begged your mom to buy for you. The hair crimper, for one. Yes, the grooved hot iron that not only ruined hair, but left the lovely scent of burned hair in your bathroom.

Then there were the ever popular snap bracelets that had kids all over America cutting themselves with the mental strip underneath the plastic covering. You know you had one.

There are also toys that we put on our Christmas lists that don't have a purpose. Shrinky Dinks, for example, were plastic strips with your favorite cartoon on them. You color them in and then bake them in the oven until they shrink into flat, small, useless pieces of plastic which you then add a base for standing purposes. Basically everyone out there was in favor of down sizing their toy and supervision by an adult was necessary because this hobby included an oven.

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The Point considers for publication letters to the editor on any topic of interest to the Fitchburg State College community. All submissions run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length.

All articles must be typed or legibly handwritten and include a name and a phone number, in case of questions.

Announcements should be short, including

dates, places, times, and a contact person.

The content of any article labeled Opinion, does not necessarily represent the views of The Point, its staff, or Fitchburg State College.

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The City with No Scene

By Patrick Wilkins

It's a weekend night, and you're sitting around at home with a couple of friends, talking about what to do, again. This is the weekly routine of many teenagers across America. They have plenty of free time, but their communities do not provide them with activities for young people. Local music bands playing sounds like a good idea to keep the teens occupied, but the hypocritical people in charge do not seem to think so. They complain about the teens in the city but they don't try to help them by giving them something to do with their time.

Social clubs claim to be there to help the teens, yet they will not allow teens to have shows. Their idea of help is to award scholarships to just a few of them each year. What about all of the other teens? Is it right to ignore them? Young people show interest in music concerts. Over 250 of them showed up for a concert at the Elks Club in Leominster in February. Yet because fights almost broke out, the Elks Club decided never to have shows again. Problems will arise in any event they hold, so shows should not be banned because of minor problems.

It is not as though problems do not exist within the staff at social clubs. The Knights of Columbus agreed to book a show. When it came time to play for the hall, they acted confused and backed out. They claimed that someone else must have incorrectly booked it, because "they do not book concerts of those kind." The City Hall agreed to book a show. They changed their minds after the person booking it hired a cop. They claimed that the janitor had last say on what was allowed and he did not wish for the concert to happen. The person who hired the cop is still stuck paying him two hundred dollars to do nothing. The flyers and websites that promoted the concert also have to be edited and removed. It makes the situation worse to say yes then to challenge the answer.

The answer that is usually given as to why shows are not allowed is liability. Everyone worries about themselves first, and others after. The person who books shows at the PACC will not allow all-age shows. He claims that teens can't buy alcohol and that is where the money is. It is too bad the prime reason this person books shows is to make money and not provide the community with cultural entertainment. I also find it hard to believe that he uses liability as an excuse. He doesn't want a teen to get hurt dancing at his show, but he also doesn't care about a teen getting hit by a drunk driver going home from one of his shows. Another excuse owners use is that they don't like the music styles. Denying the music because it doesn't interest them is discrimination, pure and simple. They are just shutting down and turning away from something they do not understand. It would make more sense for them to try understanding it, and perhaps changing their minds. I have yet to hear a good answer as to why any of these places will now have shows.

I also have yet to hear any news of the school system setting up any concerts. They should be concerned with the lives of their students, even outside of the classroom. Concerts provide a great weekend alternative to keg parties (which occur quite regularly around here). Another bad occurrence is teen pregnancy. If the high school wants to help prevent bad habits like drinking and unprotected sex, then perhaps they should set up alternative activities.

Activities like concerts enrich the lives of younger people. If Gardner (or any place) wants to be able to advertise as a great place to live for people of all ages, then the city needs to be concerned with its youth. It is hard for younger people to get entire cities to listen to them. Without voting ability, all they can do is complain or make suggestions. If the older citizens of Gardner want to respect the whole city then they have to listen to the teens. Empty promises and excuses are simply not enough.



You know you were born in the 80's if you had one of these Cabbage Patch Kids.

Born in the 80's?

Continued from page 2

Another theme amongst 80's toys was food. There were the Teenage Mutant Turtles who binged on pizza and pizza only. Perhaps that's why pizza is one of my favorite foods. Toys R' Us sold Cabbage Patch Kids, Couch Potatoes, Cherry Merry Muffin dolls, and plastic play food. One would think because food was so encouraged that anorexia wouldn't be such a problem in this country.

The biggest theme of the 80's were shows and products that included orphans. "Webster," "Different Strokes," and "Punky Brewster" all dealt with kids that had no parents. It didn't stop there, even cartoons felt the need to have orphans. The "Muppet Babies" had no parents, but they did have a faceless nanny who in my opinion really could have used some fashion advice. What was with those socks? There is still apart of me who thinks "Muppet Babies" carries a Muppet scandal. What did ever happen to Skeeter? The same goes for "Alvin and the Chipmunks," while Cabbage Patch dolls and Pound Puppies encouraged the 80s youth to get out there and adopt a toy.

The last 80's theme I found was a rainbow theme. "Rainbow Brite," "Punky Brewster," and "Care Bears" all had multicolor elements to them. Today the rainbow theme is unheard of for cartoons. It's basically only seen as the icon for gay and lesbian pride organizations. There, unfortunately, could be an uproar if rainbows were used. Just look what happened to the "Teletubbies."

Although the 80's were a weird time I think we can still learn from the decade. In fact I am a strong believer that sweaters should come back. Any one who knows me knows of my sweater fetish. When I say sweater, I am not referring to the short sweaters that bare mid-ribs and do not keep you warm when the wind kicks up here in the Burg. I'm talking about Bill Cosby sweaters and the Stacy Keenan look, from "My Two Dads," that taught teenage girls how to work a cardigan.

I think that all children of today should explore what Fisher Price has to offer and pick up some Play Doh while they're at it. I also think that every young girl should have the experience of trying on a pair of plastic, extremely uncomfortable jelly shoes. If they can survive those they can survive any pair of high heels. We were all "Born in the 80's" and we should all remember it!

Alternative Spring Break doubles up

The do-good group hopes to raise funds by Rose sale

By: Robin L. Kanter

An ancient Chinese proverb states, "Where there's a will there's a way." The will of thirty FSC students is concentrated on helping people who are less fortunate than they are. The Alternative Spring Break program is going to Franklin, West Virginia to work with Habitat for Humanity in building a house for an underprivileged family. ASB will leave on March 16 and return on March 22. They will work that week, Monday-Friday with a day off. Last year the group decided to not take a day off and work instead. This shows hard work and commitment.

This year Fitchburg will be taking 30 people instead of the 15 who went last year. After talking with Jason Polonsky, he expressed how excited he was for the upcoming trip. "Just last year we only had 15 students. This year we doubled that number and who knows where that will take us." FSC will be joined with 30 other students. The college or university that they will be working with is unknown at this time.

Last year ASB went to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and the year before was Sumter, Maine. The students will be bused down to West Virginia. They are going to be staying in a 60-bed dorm house. This will be the first year working with Habitat for Humanity. "Last year I brought up the idea to the Campus Center about having a Spring Break with Habitat for Humanity. This year we are doing that," quotes Carrie Dion the Student Leader of ASB. In past years, ASB worked with Private Companies. The students will also not be building the typical house. Most houses are made out of wood. The house that they will be making is going to be out of clay.

Polonsky, along with Dion, have been fundraising for almost year. Their first event was graduation, where they sold flowers. At Thanksgiving, ASB held a lunch for students, faculty, and staff. Back before Christmas, they sold Poinsettias. Their next fundraiser happened this past week down in the Underground Pub. They sponsored a dinner, when they hosted the first annual Festival Italiano. The cost was only ten dollars and was held from 4-6 P.M. on January 22.

It was a traditional pasta dinner with live entertainment. The entertainment was great. Music where people could sing right along. ASB is also looking for corporate sponsors. This

will help in the fundraising portion of the trip. So far, the students have raised \$7000 out of the \$12,000 needed. They are still fundraising. Mark your calendar for the Second Annual Valentine's Day Lunch on February 13, 2003 from 11:30-1:30. The next fundraiser is already in progress. ASB is selling roses. All benefits support ASB. You can buy roses from any one

going on the ASB trip.

Many students are also excited about the upcoming trip. Kim Conner, who works in the Volunteer Center said, "My church went last year, and I did not get the opportunity to go, but this year I am glad to get that chance." Students are not the only people going on this trip. ASB will be joined by Robert Hynes, the Head of Counseling Services, Tullio Nieman, Dean of Student Affairs, and Jason Polonsky. Polonsky quoted earlier, "Dr. Hynes has been one of the large supporters as faculty goes, and he will be joining us again this year." With such great support from our faculty, it is sure to be a great trip. It only takes one pair of hands to make a difference, but in this case, there will be 30 pairs.

"There are no problems we cannot solve together, and very few that we can solve by ourselves." -Lyndon B. Johnson

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'Chappelle's Show' provides sharp entertainment

By Andy Levine

It had to happen eventually. Comedian Dave Chappelle finally has a regular outlet to reach the national audience with his new variety sketch show 'Chappelle's Show' Wednesday nights at 10:30 on Comedy Central.

First gaining comedic notoriety in the cult hit "Half Baked," Chappelle made a name for himself with his incredibly clever stand-up that dealt with racial and social issues in a lighter, amusing way than anyone else in his field.

The show is comprised of skits where Dave's witty, hilarious humor is evident in every single clip. They sometimes take shots at society, institutions, or are just plain ridiculous in nature.

Highlights of the premiere episode included a mock advertisement for a personal stenographer, so people would not get in arguments about what others say. There was a model which featured a dwarf, the



job possible.

'Chappelle's Show' has a good chance of doing well; being that the comedic phenomenon South Park is on the half hour before.

Along with his new show, Chappelle will hit the road again for a stand up

tour. Titled 'Dave Chappelle is Blackzilla Tour,' the comic will start in early February and going until late May, the tour will hit every major area of the United States.

On Sunday April 13th, the Blackzilla tour will stop in Boston at the Orpheum Theatre.

Chappelle's last big comedy stand has been featured several occasions

on Comedy Central and HBO. On that special, Chappelle voiced his opinions on things such as relationships between white and blacks to how Sesame Street is a show dominated by drug addicts (Snuffy and Cookie Monster) and a pimp (The Count).

Recently Comedy Central has given a number of comedians their own show. Sometimes they work (Dave Attell) and sometimes they don't (Colin Quinn).

Some students are skeptical about the longevity of 'Chappelle's Show'

"Although I enjoy Dave Chappelle's stand up routine and variety show, unfortunately it will most probably not last," says Junior Mike Forest.

I for one think this show will be a hit and hopefully become just another solid show on the greatest cable network ever...comedy Central.

portable model of the home stenographer.

Another skit portrayed a mock training video for a copy shop such as Kinko's. The company sketch, "Popcopy," featured fellow Half Baked star Guillermo Diaz (Scarface) and the fiery Michael Rapaport. The skit taught its employees how to ignore customer and basically how to do the worst

Star Search shoots back onto the scene

By Stephanie St. Jean

Remember the show "Star Search" from when you were little? Ed McMann hosted it and there was always tons of talent. The show was great for a family night, sitting by the fire with a bowl of popcorn. Well it's back and as talent-packed as ever. Hosted by Arsenio Hall, the show is just like most remember except its more modern. He hosts the show while being comedic about it without taking away from the other people's talent.

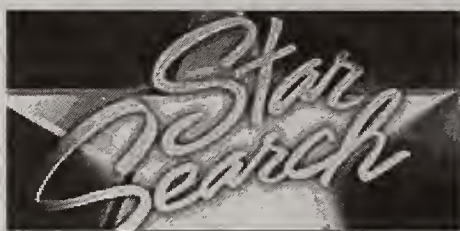
Children and adults alike compete to be the best in their category. Some sing, some are comedians, and yes guys; there are models once more. The combined scores by judges and the American public determine who will advance to the next level. One

thing different however, is that the judges are no longer just everyday people; they are stars themselves. So far stars like Naomi Judd, Ben Stine, and model Tyrese have been judges on the talent show. Many more are to come in the future; it is never the same four.

The show airs Wednesday and Thursday nights at 8 p.m. on channel 4. If you watch you can help boost the score of your favorite performer by logging onto the web

site http://www.cbs.com/primetime/star_search and casting your vote.

The show reminded me of when I was a little girl and wanted to be on the show. I am sure a lot of people have dreamed of being on the show at least once while they were little, and now the dream comes true for a new generation.



FSC Scholarship Applications

Scholarship Application Booklets will be available February 3, 2003 in the Financial Aid Office.

Completed applications are due back March 3, 2003.

Fitchburg State College offers scholarships through the generosity of its alumni, trustees, staff, and friends. Scholarship Awards are based on a variety of criteria including merit, special talents, commitment to the college, and financial need.

Take notice of "Two Weeks" Flick

By Kristine McCaffrey

In "Two Weeks Notice" Sandra Bullock and Hugh Grant team up in this romantic comedy that's silly plot and one-liners will have audience members laughing uncontrollably.

Lucy (Bullock) is a flower child offspring, charity working, Harvard educated lawyer, who believes that pro-bono gigs are more rewarding than high paying ones. George (Grant) is a multi-millionaire buyer and seller who can't make his own decisions or do anything on his own except make funny comments.

George wants to hire Lucy as his employee, but Lucy will only accept on one condition. The condition is that George's company does not tear down her neighborhood community center. After months and months of George's foolish antics and dependency on her, Lucy gives her two weeks notice. Then the real fun begins when George tries to keep her as his employee and friend.

In usual Hugh Grant straight man comedic style, the movie is filled with uncomfortably hilarious



moments and witty lines that only Grant can deliver with his great timing and execution. The audience can't help but find him adorable in that weird cold British way.

Bullock shows off how funny she can be with physical and sarcastic comedy, as she did in the flick "Miss Congeniality." The two of them have chemistry on screen that shows what a terrific time the two actors must have had in making the film.

If you enjoyed "Notting Hill," and "Miss Congeniality" or are a fan of either Bullock or Grant you will probably find yourself unable to keep from laughing and smiling throughout this silly, witty comedy. Hopefully the two of them will star together in a movie again soon.

Golden Globe award winners

On Sun., Jan. 19, the 60th annual Golden Globes were held. it was a rather memorable night with some humorous speeches, and a few unsuspected wins. Here is the list of winners.

Best Film - Drama: "The Hours"

Best Film - Comedy/Musical: "Chicago"

Best Actor - Drama: Jack Nicholson ("About Schmidt")

Best Actress - Drama: Nicole Kidman ("The Hours")

Best Actor - Comedy/Musical: Richard Gere ("Chicago")

Best Actress - Comedy/Musical: Renee Zellweger ("Chicago")

Best Director: Martin Scorsese ("Gangs of New York")

Best Screenplay: Alexander Payne and Jim Taylor ("About Schmidt")

Best Supporting Actor: Chris Cooper ("Adaptation")

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Blood, guts, and history in Scorsese's 'Gangs of New York'

By Kate O'Neil

On a cold day in 1846, two rival gangs go to battle. The Irish immigrants against the so called Natives at the Five Points, and only one can emerge as the victor. Years after the battle another war breaks out, both nationally and locally, as the Five Points are once again bloodied during the Draft Riots. The gang wars start a new.

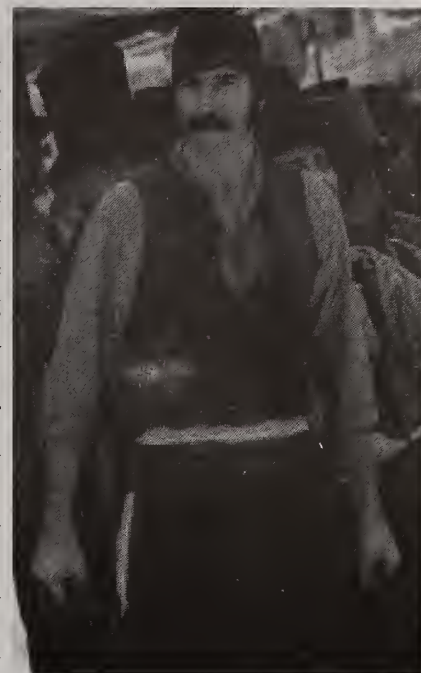
This is either a film you will love or hate. This is the latest work by Martin Scorsese, who revels in violent works, and this is one of the most violent and gory movies I've seen in a long time. It's an interesting and little talked about aspect of American history he sets his story during. While many films have been made about the civil war, none have been made about what was going on in the city at the time.

The least you'll get out of the movie is a somewhat skewed history lesson.

The sets and costumes are extremely well done and do a great job of drawing the audience into the setting. The acting is solid, and while I'm not a fan of Leonardo DiCaprio, he does a steady job as Amsterdam Vallon, the lead character. It's his plight we follow as he returns to New York to find his old neighborhood and gang's honor shattered. Daniel Day-Lewis does a fantastic job with his character, William 'Bill the Butcher' Cutting, who is a truly hate filled character and full of hypocrisy. Filling out the cast that the most time is spent with is the character of Jennie, the love interest and pick pocket, played by Cameron Diaz. The artistic direction of the film is solid, and the whole thing is very well shot. The score by Howard Shore is solid but not as memorable as his work for Lord of the Rings.

Unfortunately the movie has a bitter aftertaste. The complete and desperate feeling the movie gives the viewer is that of no redeemable value. The whole city is a pit of thieves and prostitutes, corrupt politicians and people just trying to make a buck and to survive. This results in everyone acting like savage animals in a feeding frenzy. There are no good guys and no bad guys, just everyone acting on their own for themselves. Consequentially, you end up feeling next to nothing for any of the characters. I have a problem with the closing of the movie, which is a series of stills of the city growing and changing through the years up until present day. Or at least what was present day when the movie was shot. It was shelved for over a year due to backlash from 9/11, and because of that incident, the city skyline has changed yet again and they either forgot or neglected that fact.

With a run time of close to three hours, you're likely to tire of the debauchery before the final confrontation. It's an interesting film and worth a viewing at least once.



The Student Conduct Board wants You!

The Student Conduct Board is currently looking for students who have a desire to become student leaders and work with a variety of people from across the campus. We are recruiting for this semester and the next academic year. Applicants should be open-minded, fair, good role models, and have the ability to maintain confidentiality.

The Conduct Board hears cases of alleged violations brought against students. We meet once a week as necessary. The benefits of being a student representative on the Conduct Board are endless, but here are a few: a great resume builder, attend conferences and workshops, have valued input in the decision making process and an opportunity to implement change.

Applicants must be full-time, undergraduate students in good academic and disciplinary standing that have been enrolled at FSC for at least one semester. If you are interested applications are available in the Office of Judicial Affairs (side entrance of Aubuchon). For further information contact Michelle at x. 4090.

Van Leer to bring 'Power' to FSC's Classic Lunch

Fitchburg, Mass.-Actor Darryl Van Leer will present his critically acclaimed one-man show "Power on Earth" at Fitchburg State College on Friday, Feb. 7, at noon in the Campus Center. The public is welcome free of charge.

"Power on Earth" has earned high praise from critics and audiences alike. The show features vivid portrayals of some of history's most important and influential African American figures.

Van Leer wrote, performs and directs the show, which includes a startlingly accurate portrayal of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the dramatic courtroom eloquence of Thurgood Marshall and the fiery conviction of Malcolm X. Also featured are Nat Turner, leader of the largest slave revolt in history, separatist Marcus Garvey, slave turned abolitionist and orator Frederick Douglass and blues greats Robert Johnson and Muddy Waters.

To date, Van Leer has performed the show for audiences totaling well over 100,000 people. His work was recognized by the National Association of Campus Activities in 1994 as "Best Performance" and he has been honored as

"Performer of the Year" by *Campus Activities Today*.

Van Leer began his television acting career on Black Entertainment Network's *Bobby Jones Gospel Show* as a background vocalist, writer and staff photographer.

Today, he enjoys a successful and varied career in film and television. Most recently, he appeared in *First Time*, a Nickelodeon movie of the week co-starring John Amos. His other film work includes roles in *Steel Chariots*, an acclaimed Fox movie of the week, and the HBO original movie *The Second Civil War*, co-starring James Earl Jones and Beau Bridges.

His other television and motion picture appearances include the NBC-TV movie *Witness to an Execution* and the HBO film *Up Against the Wall*. He also appeared in the film *A League of Their Own*, co-starring Geena Davis and Tom Hanks, and in nationally aired TV commercials.

The performance is part of the college's Classic Lunch Series.

TOUR GROUP

BY KATE O'NEIL



Ride around Fitchburg on the FSC Van

Continued from page 1

dropped off at the Train station due to trains will leave with or without you. On Sundays, the Van shuttle will pick up at the Fitchburg MBTA for incoming trains at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. This way, students do not have to walk back to campus after getting off the train.

The Van service is a great service; there are just a couple of quarks that students have noticed. "I think having both shuttles run until 9:30, will have the maximum use out of the Vans," states an FSC junior. "Even reworking the route a little bit or having set times for the Mall shuttle, so students will know when the Van will be there to pick them up and drop them off." It will only improve in the future.

There are many things to keep in mind. This service to the campus students and faculty is free of charge. The Shuttle Service is just transportation from the Civic Center to campus, not an individual's personal taxi service. The Shuttle is also running to the best of its capability. Delays are expected and most delays are unexpected.

Plan to arrive in enough time to park and catch the Shuttle if need be. Lastly, FSC is working on everything that they can to make the Shuttle and Van service a pleasant, safe, and convenient experience.

The registration run-around

By Diana DiBattista

"She made an awful face and says, 'No' you have to wait," recalled Meredith Cipriani of how she was treated. Opinions regarding the latest registration period run hot and cold says a recent survey. An on-campus survey of 30 random students shows that emotions are mixed regarding their experiences with a new method of registration being implemented this year.

For the first time in FSC history students were given the opportunity to register for classes using the internet. FSC has recently taken up the BANNER system which allows students, after receiving a pin number and password from their advisors, to register for classes via the computer. Students were still given the option this semester to register at McKay as in previous years, though some say they were presented with resentment.

According to the survey, of the 30, 17 students registered online using the BANNER system, the other 13 registered at McKay. Of the 17 who registered online, seven needed red cards, the system that allows students to register for a class already filled to capacity. Because as of yet there is no way to apply a signed red card on line, those students needing them were still forced to go to McKay. Overall 20 of the 30 students surveyed ended down at McKay for registration.

Although the majority of students who registered down at McKay cited having no problem registering, quite a few others were rather enraged about supposed "attitudes" they received while attempting to register for classes. "The woman was rude. She remarked that I could have done it online," said Carrisa Lemoine, a junior who attempted to register at McKay. Several students who attempted to register at McKay where immediately where told they could have regis-

tered online. (This year, they were also able to register at McKay)

In past years, registrars worked with students trying to register to help avoid any scheduling conflicts, or to find a replacement class in the case that the chosen one was filled. Some students feel that this year they were made to feel like a hassle for requiring a little help. Mathew Gordon, also a junior was outraged at the registrar who sent him on his way after only being able to register for 3 of 5 classes. "This is their job, we are the reasons they have jobs, God forbid they actually do them."

The survey conducted also polled students on their overall opinions regarding this year's registration period. Eight students said they had only met with their advisors to get a signature. Of the others polled, six found the advising session "very unhelpful," six "helpful" and ten of them believed their advisors to be "very helpful"

Last year's accreditation evaluation of the college resulted in a "needs improvement" rating in advising. This time, every student who met with an advisor was asked to fill out a college based survey regarding their experience with an advisor. The overall impression of students who mentioned that survey while filling out the poll was that it, like many of the class evaluation sheets was irrelevant.

One surveyor recalled on the sheet, "That although my advisor was trying to be helpful, he admittedly wasn't supposed to have advises yet, but due to a shortage of teachers in the English department, he was thrust into the roll with little training and knowledge of the process."

Of the entire registration period, fourteen students felt the process had "run smoothly." Alex Perez commented, "That's the first time I can ever say that!" Eleven students "had some trou-

ble" and four found the process to be "a total headache!" Twenty one of the 30 said that they did get the schedule they wanted, many adding, "Eventually," while 23 said that they would register in the same manner next year. Whether registration at McKay will be offered in the spring is yet to be determined.

The decision to eliminate the P.A.C.E. sheet this year was one issue all but a few freshmen who had never seen them, seemed to agree upon. In past years students were issued a sheet to aide them in selecting classes. The P.A.C.E sheet outlined for students what classes had been taken in their majors/minors/ and general education clusters. It also included what classes remained to be taken.

This year students where on their own, and many expressed "disappointment" and "annoyance" in the decision to do away with it this time. One woman who took the survey remarked, "How are students supposed to know where they stand? We need some kind of tracking method!" As of yet, there is no replacement for the P.A.C.E sheet, and to the best of knowledge no specific reasoning for having gotten rid of them in the first place.

As a whole, the registration process this semester ran just as it always does. Some students found it to be a piece of cake, others something they are still trying to recover from, with someone falling everywhere on the spectrum in between. From the poll issued it is evident that students as a collective voice are still looking for a little more attention and sense of urgency when it comes to trying to plan their futures. At the time of print a representative from the registration office was unavailable for comment.

And the award goes to...

Continued from page 7

Best Supporting Actress: Meryl Streep
("Adaptation")

Best Music Score: Elliot Goldenthal
("Frida")

Best Song: "The Hands That Built America"
by U2 ("Gangs of New York")

Best Foreign Language Film: "Talk to Her"

Best TV Series - Drama: "The Shield"

Best TV Series - Comedy: "Curb Your

Enthusiasm"

Best TV Mini-Series: "The Gathering Storm"

Best TV Series Actor - Drama: Michael
Chiklis ("The Shield")

Best TV Series Actress - Drama: Edie Falco
("The Sopranos")

Best TV Series Actor - Comedy: Tony
Shalhoub ("Monk")

Best TV Series Actress - Comedy: Jennifer
Aniston ("Friends")

Best TV Movie/Mini-Series Actor: Albert
Finney ("The Gathering Storm")

Best TV Movie/Mini-Series Actress: Uma
Thurman ("Hysterical Blindness")

Best TV/Mini-Series Supporting Actor:
Donald Sutherland ("Path to War")

Best TV/Mini-Series Supporting Actress: Kim
Cattrall ("Sex and the City")

>>>>>>>>>>>> Student Art Showcase

A Moment

By Robin L. Kanter

Although I wish my heart could soar
When you walk by it hits the floor.
I start to sweat and my lips run dry,
When you don't look I start to cry.



I hold on to every word that you say,
Hoping it is directed my way.
I try to always look my best,
So in your eyes I pass the test.

As time goes by and unnoticed I go
I feel the time creep by so slow.
My heart breaking with every step I take
With a path to me I hope you make.

By Stephanie St. Jean

Love of my life,
where have you been?
I've waited
and waited
for years without end.
Now you have found me
and I have found you.
In your arms I feel safe,
protected from harm.
I've learned to live with you,
but never without you.
How can love survive,
stretched upon miles
and be kept alive?
You have my heart
in the palm of your hand.
You have my love
forever without end.
How can I say goodbye,
if I must,
when it's time?
You know that I shall cry
if we ever have to say goodbye.
I've searched all my life
and held onto my heart.
You are the perfect love.
My Dream.
My Prince.
And you have won my heart.

Submit to
Campus
Creations.

POINT@FSC.EDU

Then I realized that you're not on the way,
And there is nothing I can do or say.
I go each day with a piece of me gone,
I hope that it will not be away long.

More courage comes my way more and more,
I try to stay planted and not hit the floor.
The friends I have, have been the best.
They say he is not worth my quest.

The way I feel for him someday will fade,
A little more leaves with each passing day.
Another love will replace him at last,
And with hope that the love will never pass.

Friends are the only thing that I need,
Because they will make me all I can be.
They will tell me that I can,
Because I will find another man.

Without them life would be so plain,
With all my insanity, it is nice to have someone sane.... Friendships last longer, it goes on forever,
With friends like mine, I will be lonely never.

Spring Break 2003 with STS

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Points and Opinions Club = Team

My name is Tiffany Koller, an active member and teacher of the Fitchburg State Dance CLUB. I read the article in the point and was really upset to hear that people are trying to make us sound bad. The dance club is one of the biggest and most highly respected clubs on this campus.

As for cutting people from the club, we don't do that. From a class, maybe but not from the club. The dance club is for everyone. We have to hold auditions because for one there are limits to the amount of students allowed in the dance studio and another, it is impossible to have a class of about 50-100 people. It was said to have two classes however people do not realize that this club is run by us students and we have other responsibilities besides dance and also is the problem of limited studio time so it is not so easy to just add a class. I myself am involved in four or five other clubs besides dance and would not have time to teach another class.

The dance club is a club and not a team. We all work together and do not discriminate on anyone. No matter what your dancing ability, there is a place for you in the club, if you are cut from a class we always make sure that there is another class for you to be in.

As for being a sophomore and being cut from a class, I am a senior and a teacher myself and I was cut from a class and yes I knew the teacher. So the idea people have that the dance teachers friends always make it...not true.

I have been a member of the dance club for four years and we have never had any problems, I think that people are taking things way too seriously and just need to relax. The dance club is supposed to be fun and people like the one who wrote the letter are making this an almost impossible task. The club is run by students and we do the best that we can, no not everything is always perfect but we try very hard to run the club as fair as we can.

I just want to say that I stand behind the dance club 100%. If people are having problems with the club they need to come to one of the officers or teachers personally. Writing anonymous letters does not help. If we don't know who you are then there is really nothing we can do for you. So if anyone has something to say to us, just come say it, we will be more than happy to listen to any concerns you may be having.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Koller,

Beginner tap teacher and member for four years.

Do you have any ideas, opinions thoughts about the FSC sports scene. Email them to PointSports@Hotmail.com

Get you hand in shape

By Robin L. Kanter

When many people are in the Recreation Center one of the first things that he or she may notice are the Racquetball courts. These courts are not only for Racquetball but also for Wallyball and Handball. If you enjoy Racquetball, then you will love Handball.

Fitchburg State College is now offering a new program at the Recreation Center! This new program is for all ages and anyone can play. Handball is the new sport people can participate in. Handball is not a very popular sport; in fact, most people do not know the concept or the rules of Handball.

Handball is an indoor or outdoor game, played by striking a ball against a wall or walls with the palm of the hand. It can be played for singles or doubles (four players) on a court with one, three, or four walls. The court is typically 20 ft (6.1 m) by 34 ft (10.4 m) with a short line, from behind which the ball is served, marked off 16 ft (4.9 m) from, and parallel to, the front wall, which is 16 ft high. Players hit the ball against the front wall before or after it has struck the floor once.

The object is to keep the ball out of the opponent's reach but within the bounds of the court. In the three-wall game, the sidewalls are also in play, in the four-wall version the back wall also.

In all versions, rallies are won when opponents cannot return the ball made of hard black rubber, 1 7/8 in. (4.76 cm) in diameter to the front wall on the fly. Points are scored only when the server wins a rally; the serve changes hand when the receiver wins. Twenty-one points wins a game.

Special gloves are used to protect the hands. Although the U.S. Handball Association conducts national and regional championships, the sport, once very popular in YMCAs and public parks, has lost much of its constituency, to racquetball, a four-wall game, invented in the 1950s, that has similar rules but employs short-handled rackets and a fast-moving hollow rubber ball.

Noah Yannie, who is the head of the Recreation Center, is offering a program where students can come and learn how to play Handball. I went the other day to experience this action one on one. The information was endless and my game was improved at least a 110%. He helped me with my serves, different types of shots, and even how to use both my hands. It was great, fun, and free. What more could you ask for! For those interested and participating in this new program should contact Noah at 978-665-3561. You can also contact me, Robin L. Kanter at extension 5191, if you are interested. Do not be the last to sign up!

Track and Field take on NYU, Tufts, Bates and others

Men's 55 Meter Dash

Place	Name	Time
15	Leblanc, Andy	7.12
17	Claffey, David	7.22

Men's 200 Meter

Place	Name	Time
13	Leblanc, Andy	25.13
16	Claffey, David	25.54
20	Bruce, Nick	26.78

Men's 400 Meter

Place	Name	Time
17	Bruce, Nick	59.58

Men's 500 Meter

Place	Name	Time
10	Keegan, Chris	1:10.01

Men's 800 Meter

Place	Name	Time
10	Isola, Dan	2:25.98
11	Kantor, Keith	2:29.31

Men's 1500 Meter

Place	Name	Time	Points
6	Savukoski, Dan	4:11.52	3

Men's 5000 Meter

Place	Name	Time	Points
3	Germain, Matt	15:51.17	6

Men's Long Jump

Place	Name	Distance
11	Leblanc, Andy	5.32m

Men's Weight Throw

Place	Name	Distance
18	Lynch, Ed	9.76m

Men's Shot Put

Place	Name	Distance
9	Wilson, Kelly	12.19m
20	Lynch, Ed	9.98m
21	Leblanc, Andy	9.83m

23	Crosby, Andy	7.39m
24	Kantor, Keith	7.20m

Women's 55 Meter Dash

Place	Name	Time
14	Smallwood, Dominique	8.17
27	Kurtinitis, Jen	8.62
31	Keith, Andrea	9.65

Women's Triple Jump

Place	Name	Distance
13	Smallwood, Dominique	8.65m

Women's Weight Throw

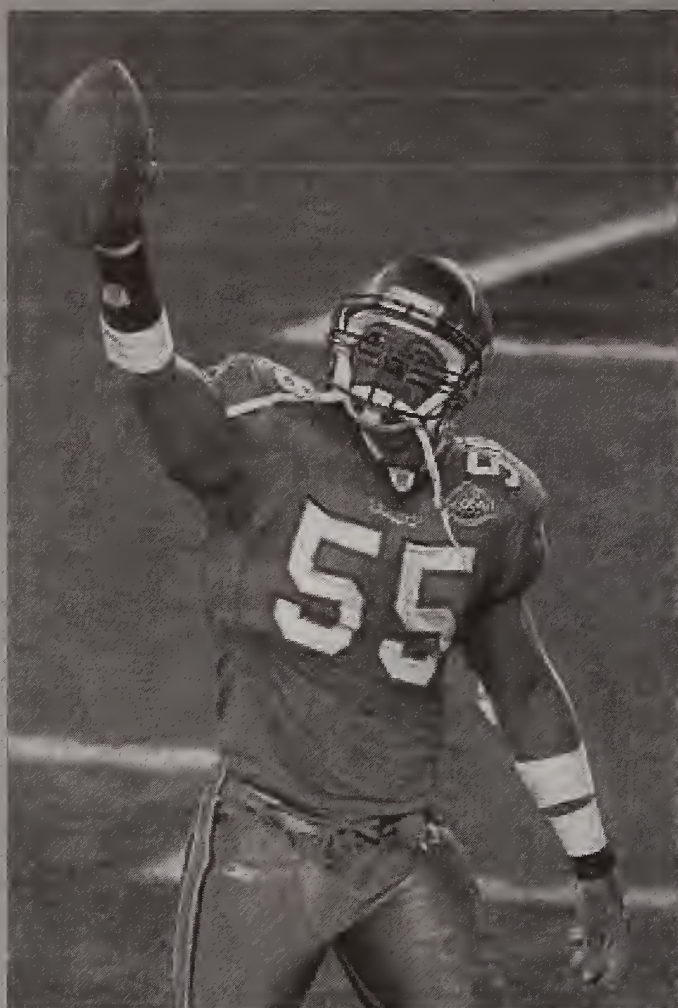
Place	Name	Distance
15	Kurtinitis, Jen	10.08m
21	Keith, Andrea	8.86m

Women's Shot Put

Place	Name	Distance
18	Keith, Andrea	9.18m
24	Kurtinitis, Jen	8.59m

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Paul Sakuma, AP

Tampa Bay Buccaneers linebacker Derrick Brooks (55) holds up the football he intercepted against the Oakland Raiders in the fourth quarter during Super Bowl XXXVII in San Diego, Sunday, January 26, 2003. The Buc's defeated the Raiders 48-21.

Hockey Whacks WNEC 6-1

By: Robin L. Kanter

On January 25, 2003 the FSC Hockey team took a win against Western New England College. The FSC Hockey team right now is 9-6-1.

FSC started strong in the game with a goal by John Gambale. Greg Horan and Chris McNeil assisted him. This was a power play goal only 12 minutes into the game. FSC did not stop there. Horan came away with a goal 4 minutes later. McNeil also assisted him. Shane Coleman also assisted. Fitchburg was now up two to nothing.

Chad Fletcher came away with a shorthanded goal in the third period. Sophomore Sebastien Corbeil assisted him.

The rest of the period minor penalties were given to both teams. Second period there was not much action in the beginning. Minor penalties were awarded to both teams. With eight minutes left in the second period Mike Savastano scored on a power play. Fletcher

and Bill Burns assisted. It was not four to nothing in the second period. Corbeil came away with a power play goal. Gambale and Fletcher assisted. Western New England was down two people when Corbeil scored. FSC would score their final goal for the evening. Fletcher scored the goal. Brian Geever assisted. It was five on five when Fletcher scored.

Third period came around and FSC was up six to nothing. Western New England came away with one goal for the night scored by Pat Henderson. Henderson was unassisted. The final score was FSC six, Western New England one. Brian Essig was in goal for Western New England. He saved 30 out of the 36 shots.

Jason Holt was in net for FSC. He saved 20 out of the 21 shots on net. The three stars of tonight's game were Chad Fletcher, John Gambale and Jason Holt. The next home action is this Saturday, February 1, 2003 at 7 P.M.

Dustin Diamond



Appearing at FSC!

Wed., Feb. 5
Percival Auditorium
9 p.m.

\$3 for students, \$5 general public,

\$25: Dinner with Dustin and a front row seat (limited to 25 people)



Tahir Core Guards a Mt. Ida ball handler down the court during a 70 - 61 Falcon win. Core provided 14 points in the birds second win of the season.

Orlando Claffey, Point Sports